



Installations will remain Army Strong

U.S. Army Installation Management Command

Army installations will continue to hire the critical career fields from firefighters to child-care workers, Lt. Gen. Mike Ferriter, commander of the U.S. Army Installation Management Command, announced Jan. 29.



Lt. Gen. Mike Ferriter

Late last month, Headquarters, Department of the Army provided guidance regarding a department-wide hiring freeze and release of term and temporary civilian personnel. In that guidance, authority to approve exceptions to the hiring freeze is delegated to commanders of Army Commands, Army Service Component Commands, Direct Reporting Units and the Administrative Assistant to the Secretary of the Army for Headquarters, Department of the Army and its Field Operating and Staff Support Agencies. The above authority delegates hiring authority to the Commanding General, U.S. Army Installation Management Command.

"I am authorizing the hiring to continue in the following program areas to ensure we continue to provide programs and services in support of critical missions, national security, safety of human life and the protection of private property," Ferriter said.

Garrisons are given approval to hire firefighters, security guards, civilian police, air traffic controllers,

See CRITICAL, page 10



Courtesy photo

The Super Pond provides ATC with the capability and expertise to conduct a wide range of Department of Defense, academia and private industry shock test programs, as well as other research and development and test and evaluation efforts without impact on the environment. The pond has been used for testing since 1995.

ATC diver dies at Pond

Employee conducting routine underwater test maintenance

ATEC news release

An engineering technician (diver) died at Aberdeen Proving Ground Jan. 30 while completing routine underwater test infrastructure maintenance at the Underwater Test Facility, also known as the Super Pond.

George H. Lazzaro, Jr., 41, of Nottingham, Md., worked in the Firepower Directorate, Aberdeen Test Center, U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command. The cause of death is unknown at this time. An autopsy will be performed.

The incident occurred around 2:30 p.m. Emergency personnel from Aberdeen

Proving Ground, along with local authorities, responded to the scene. After recovery operations, Lazzaro was taken by ambulance to Harford Memorial Hospital.

"Aberdeen Test Center personnel are saddened by the loss of one of our own. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and we mourn with them during this tragic loss," said Col. Gordon L. Graham, ATC commander.

The family asks for privacy at this time as they mourn the loss of their husband, father, and friend.

Graham ordered an immediate safety stand down held Jan. 31 in addition to

ATC's scheduled monthly stand downs. Each month ATC personnel conduct safety reviews, where they review operating procedures and processes and discuss best practices.

The Super Pond provides ATC with the capability and expertise to conduct a wide range of Department of Defense, academia and private industry shock test programs, as well as other research and development and test and evaluation efforts without impact on the environment. The pond has been used for testing since 1995.

The U.S. Army is investigating the cause of the accident.



Photo by Katherine Sukienni

Electrobots coach Virginia To discusses robot strategy with (from left) Sam Boin, George Houzouris and Aaron Boin Jan. 26.

Team APG Electrobots win STEM competition

By DAN LAFONTAINE
RDECOM PAO

Seven Harford County students showcased their talents as aspiring scientists and engineers, winning a FIRST LEGO League competition Jan. 26.

The Electrobots team, sponsored by the U.S. Army Research Laboratory, Team APG and Churchville Lions Club, took top honors at the FLL First State Championship Tournament at the University of Delaware.

Electrobots' members are Aaron Boin, Sam Boin, George Houzouris, Tyler Kash, Nicholas Kendall, Dawson Reed and Tommy Sukiennik. The team competed against 125 teams from northeastern Maryland, Delaware, eastern Pennsylvania and southern New Jersey.

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Guard employee pleads guilty to wire fraud

Admin aide costs Freestate more than \$107K

Special to the APG News

Lynn Carol Williams, age 56, of Middle River, Maryland pleaded guilty today to wire fraud in connection with a scheme to misuse the corporate purchasing card and cause losses of more

than \$107,000 to the Freestate Challenge Academy, a Maryland National Guard program located at Aberdeen Proving Ground.

The guilty plea was announced by United States Attorney for the District

of Maryland Rod J. Rosenstein; Special Agent in Charge Stephen E. Vogt of the Federal Bureau of Investigation; Special Agent in Charge Robert Craig

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WEATHER

Thurs.



38° | 31°

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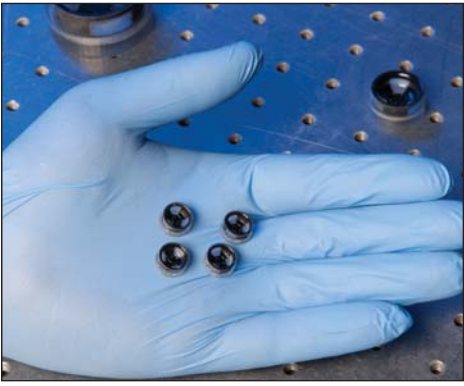


ICE system
http://ice.disa.mil/
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Medal of Honor recipient urges Troops to talk of war

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Local scientists team up on octopus-inspired suction cups

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Two APG employees retire with combine 48 years of service
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Bowling center open for league, individual, and Family fun!
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STREET TALK

What is your favorite winter activity?

I don't like cold weather so I do more indoor activities. I read more in the winter. I like to curl up under the covers with a good fantasy book.



Rachel Bostick
Chapel volunteer

I like to go sledding and play in the snow with my children. I like to stay active throughout the year. In the winter I do more indoor sports, like bowling and indoor basketball. I have a group that meets several times a week for lunch-time basketball games. It's more fun to exercise with a group.



Bill Green
ARL

If there is enough snow I like to go sled-ding, build snowmen and forts, chase my friends and have snow ball fights.



Brianna Johnson
Military Family member

I try to avoid the cold weather by staying indoors. I tend to stay home and watch more TV and movies in the winter. I like to just relax on the couch with a blanket and a cup of hot cocoa.



Terry Allen
MWR Leisure Travel Office

NEWS

Females talk policy change

By STAFF SGT. JEFFREY SMITH
Army News Service

JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON, Alaska (Jan. 29, 2013) -- The U.S. Secretary of Defense, Leon E. Panetta, in collaboration with the Joint Chiefs of Staff, rescinded the 1994 Direct Ground Combat Definition and Assignment Rule, which precluded females from holding direct combat positions within the U.S. military.

Rescinding the rule will expand career opportunities for women and provide a larger pool of qualified members to the services.

Hundreds of women with the 4th Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division, recently returned from serving a combat tour in Afghanistan. Among these women is Master Sgt. Araceli Nava, the 4-25's senior brigade career counselor, who remarked on the upcoming increase in combat roles for women.

"We shouldn't overshadow the importance of potential and quality based on gender," she said. "I think everybody would like to take advantage of any opportunity; just kind of push yourself; not only personally but also professionally."

Spc. Brittany McGee, a field artillery surveyor for the 4-25, said she is looking forward to the changes.

"I actually wouldn't mind going to a more combat-based job," McGee said. "I don't feel like a desk job is my kind of thing, and I know a few females who feel the same way as I do."

Sgt. Shawnte L. Rollins, who is also a field artillery surveyor for the 4-25th, said about half of the female Soldiers she knows express interest in combat arms.

Rollins said there should be a selection process for females who want to serve in combat arms roles.

"I think there should be an extensive assessment on the ban being lifted on certain MOSs (military occupational specialties)," Rollins said. "A lot of combat MOSs have a real physical barrier to them. You just want to make sure that, whether it is gender related or not, you have the best Soldiers who can perform and stay alive."

Rollins said her biggest concern is the physical rigors of lifting and carrying weight.

"Infantry units go out on foot patrols



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Jason Epperson
Sgt. Shawnte Rollins (right), a field artillery surveyor for the 4th Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division, and a member of the brigade's female engagement team, along with Afghan National Security troops, collects information from motorists passing through checkpoint March 30, 2012, at the Chenigai Pass in Bak District, Afghanistan.

for days on end sometimes, so they have to carry the equipment they need to sustain themselves for those days," Rollins said.

Rollins and McGee were both members of the 4-25's Female Engagement Teams, or FET Teams, during their recent deployment to Afghanistan. The FET teams were set up to travel with light infantry units on mounted and foot patrols.

A primary mission of female engagement teams is to connect with local national women in order to promote a sense of trust and to establish communication lines with Afghanistan women.

Sgt. Rollins, who is 5 foot 3 inches tall and 117 pounds, said being a member of the FET team was physically demanding.

"There were times I went out for like five or six days, and I had to carry enough stuff like water and food to last me for those days. Those rucks (military backpacks) got heavy climbing up mountains with all of that weight. It was hard, but you know, I did not want to be a liability, so if I saw guys doing it then I was going to truck-it and do it too," Rollins said. "I wanted to go out and create a good example to show them that there are female Soldiers out there who can keep up."

McGee said she had the same packing list as the male soldiers on the patrols.

She is proud of herself for meeting the same standard in combat as her male counterparts.

"I just went out there and did it," McGee said. "I did the same thing they did. I got up in the morning the same time. I was in tower guard. I was in the turret. I carried the same weight."

"It's all about what is in your mind," she said. "Do you have the confidence? Do you have the drive? How bad do you want it? If you want to succeed, you can do anything you put your mind to."

The Department of Defense's goal is to open about 237,000 previously closed positions to women. The plan is to be implemented over the next couple of years, but no later than Jan. 1, 2016.

Each military service will submit its detailed plans for implementation to the Secretary of Defense by May 15, 2013.

Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Jason Epperson
Sgt. Shawnte Rollins (right), a field artillery surveyor for the 4th Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division, and a member of the brigade's female engagement team, along with Afghan National Security troops, collects information from motorists passing through checkpoint March 30, 2012, at the Chenigai Pass in Bak District, Afghanistan.

Scholarships application deadline nears

Tillman Military Scholars Foundation

Service members, veterans and their spouses have until Feb. 15 to apply for financial aid through the Tillman Military Scholars program.

The Tillman Military Scholars program removes financial barriers to completing a degree program. The scholarship covers direct study-related expenses such as tuition and fees, in addition to other needs such as housing and child care.

"After five years of service in the Army, I was set on transitioning out to attend business school, but lacked the financial resources to pay for the two-year program," said Thomas Allison, a former Army captain, Army Ranger, and Tillman Military Scholars program scholarship recipient. "I had always been motivated

by the exceptional sacrifices of Pat Tillman and thought the program sounded like a great fit."

Allison applied for the program and was granted a scholarship. He said he applied to help fill the gap in funding between what was provided by the G.I. Bill and the actual cost of attending school. He also said that being part of the Tillman Military Scholars program community has provided for him more than just financial rewards.

"I was able to attend the Pat Tillman Leadership Summit in Maryland where I met dozens of other Tillman Military Scholars from across the services," Allison said. "During the conference, we held discussions on issues relevant to transitioning veterans, visited members of Congress in D.C., and had the opportunity to perform a

service project in Baltimore."

Allison also participated in "Pat's Run," last April, where he was able to network with other run participants.

The Tillman Military Scholars Foundation also provides access to transition assistance tools, career guidance, entrepreneurial and service-related workshops such as those provided through Inc. Magazine and the Clinton Global Initiative conferences, and unique job opportunities following school.

Those interested in applying to the program or learning more about the criteria and application process, the benefits and expectations of the program or the Tillman Community can visit <http://www.patillmanfoundation.org/tillman-military-scholars/apply/>.

APG SEVEN DAY FORECAST

Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed
38° 31°	43° 28°	35° 25°	43° 37°	52° 42°	48° 34°	43° 33°

APG NEWS

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Congressional delegation visits APG

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**
APG News

A delegation of new military legislative assistants (MLA) from the U.S. House of Representatives got an up-close look at Army technology and innovation during a visit to Aberdeen Proving Ground Jan. 31.

The delegation made stops at the C4ISR Center of Excellence Campus as well as the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command's Army Research Laboratory and Communications-Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Center (CERDEC).

At the C4ISR campus, delegation members were greeted by Gary Martin, deputy to the commander of the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command (CECOM) and APG Garrison Commander Col. Gregory McClinton who gave the group an overview of the installation.

Organizational overviews also were delivered by Jill Smith, CERDEC director; Doug Tamilio of Program Executive Office Command Control Communications-Tactical (PEO C3T); Dr. Rich Wittstruck, acting deputy program executive officer, Program Executive Office Intelligence Electronic Warfare & Sensors (PEO IEW&S); Steve Bryant deputy

director of the Army Contracting Command-APG; and Paul Mehney, director of communications for the System of Systems Engineering & Integration (SOSE&I) Directorate of the Assistant Secretary of the Army's office for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology.

The delegation consisted of 12 Congressional staff members and three officers from the Office of the Chief Legislative Liaison (OCLL).

"It is tremendously important to keep staff members like these informed of the many innovations and accomplishments coming out of APG in support of the joint warfighter," said Robert DiMichele, public affairs officer for CECOM. "They are often the eyes and ears of the members of Congress when it comes to issues."

Most members of Congress and the Senate have multiple legislative assistants who are tasked to handle one or more areas in which the assistant has particular expertise. Often the assignments will be connected to the committee assignments of the member. Generally, they monitor pending legislation, conduct research, draft legislation and offer advice, counsel and recommendations.

Maj. Ben Ferguson, Congressional liaison officer with OCLL, said the purpose of the visit to APG was for the MLAs to learn about the installation's

organizations, facilities and capabilities. Delegation members were from several different representatives' offices including those of Maryland Congressman C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger, who recently was named co-chair of the House Army Caucus for the 113th Congressional Session. The Caucus includes more than 100 members from both parties and works to educate fellow House members on Army needs, and advocate for those needs in the legislative process. Ruppersberger is the ranking member of the House Intelligence Committee and is a former member of the House Armed Services Committee.

"Each delegate will be a chief advisor for their representatives," Ferguson said. "Their duties will include advising on upcoming legislations. Generally a young staffer starts out as either an intern or a legislative correspondent which includes responding to correspondence from constituents, and often times will move up to become legislative aides," he added.

An Armor officer with two tours in Iraq and one in Afghanistan, Ferguson added that his job includes telling the Army story to members of the House. "My job is to answer questions about the Army," he said.

While at the C4ISR campus, delegation members received a briefing on

the Distributed Common Ground System-Army (DCGS-A) from Col. Charles Wells, DCGS-A project manager.

The DCGS-A is the Army's primary system for posting of data, processing of information and disseminating intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance information about the threat, weather and terrain to all components and echelons. It provides commanders the ability to task battle-space sensors and receive intelligence information from multiple sources and facilitates "seeing" and "knowing" on the battlefield.

"We're very excited about it," Wells said.

Other tour sites included the PEO IEW&S Joint Technical Integration Facility; the PM WIN-T CSDC Lab; CERDEC's Communications Systems Integration Lab (CSIL) and Prototype Integration Facility.

The tour closed with an RDECOM overview by acting deputy director Eric Edwards at ARL's Rodman Building, where the MLAs learned about basic research and collaboration with other RDECOM elements; helmet research as it relates to Soldier protection and 5.56mm round redesign. Briefings were offered by Drs. Jeff Zabinski and Shawn Walsh and Tyler Ehlers of RDECOM/ARL.

Obama calls on Congress to avoid sequestration

By **JIM GARAMONE**
American Forces Press Service

President Barack Obama called on Congress Feb. 5 to avoid deep, across-the-board spending cuts looming March 1 under a "sequestration" mechanism in budget law and to take a balanced approach to America's debt problems.

If sequestration happens, hundreds of thousands of Defense Department civilian employees could be furloughed and readiness of the military force will plummet, Pentagon officials have said.

The American economy is poised to make progress in 2013, the president said in remarks at the White House today, but sequestration could put an end to any forward movement.

"We've seen the effects that political dysfunction can have on our progress,"

Obama said. "The drawn-out process for resolving the 'fiscal cliff' hurt consumer confidence. The threat of massive automatic cuts [has] already started to affect business decisions."

While it is critical for the U.S. government to cut wasteful spending, "we can't just cut our way to prosperity," Obama said.

"Deep, indiscriminate cuts to things like education and training, energy and national security will cost us jobs, and it will slow down our recovery," he added.

The president emphasized that sequestration does not have to happen.

"For all of the drama and disagreements we've had over the past few years, Democrats and Republicans have still been able to come together and cut the deficit by more than \$2.5 trillion through

a mix of spending cuts and higher rates on taxes for the wealthy," he said.

"A balanced approach has achieved more than \$2.5 trillion in deficit reduction," the president continued. "That's more than halfway towards the \$4 trillion in deficit reduction that economists and elected officials from both parties believe is required to stabilize our debt."

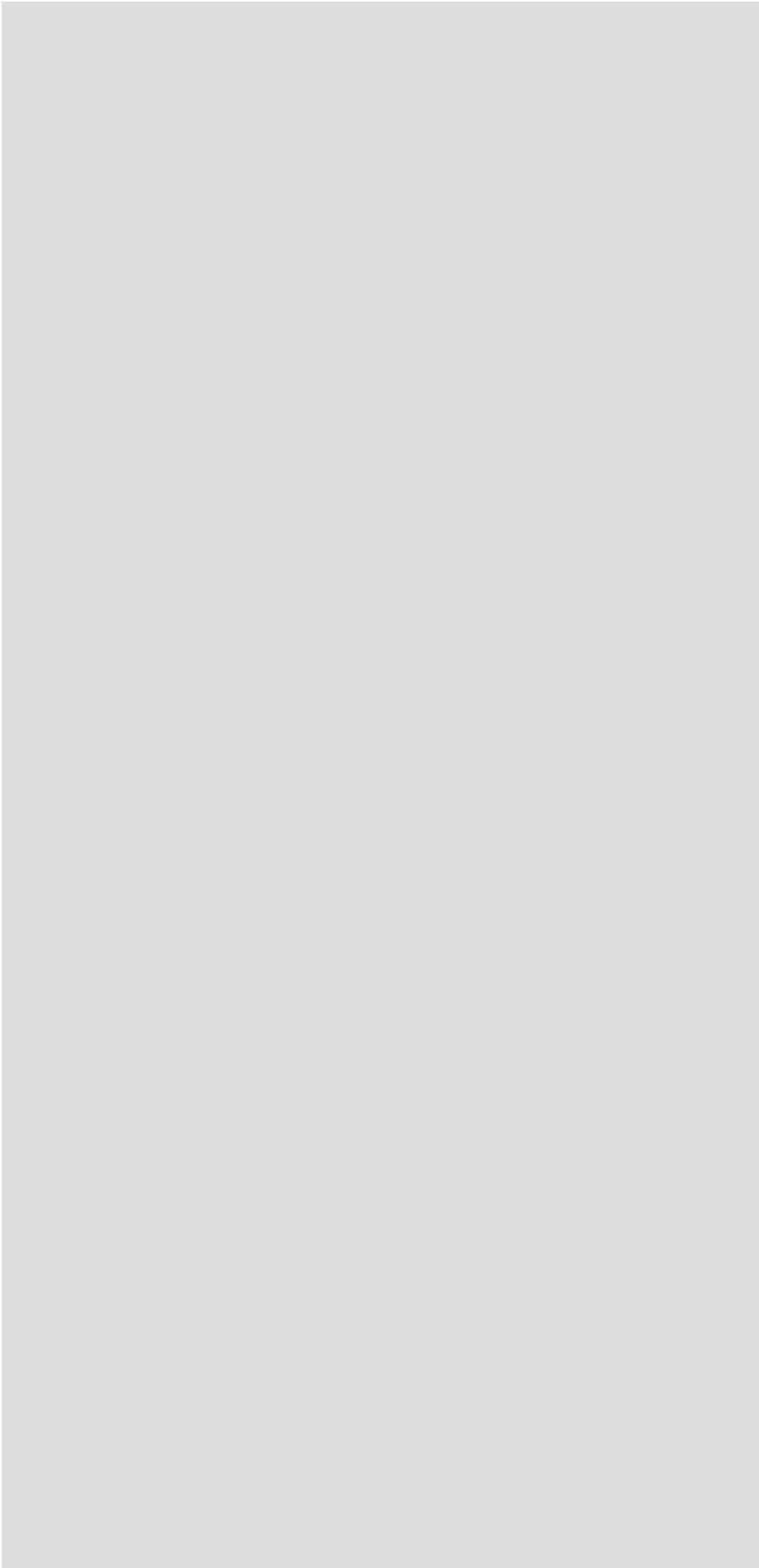
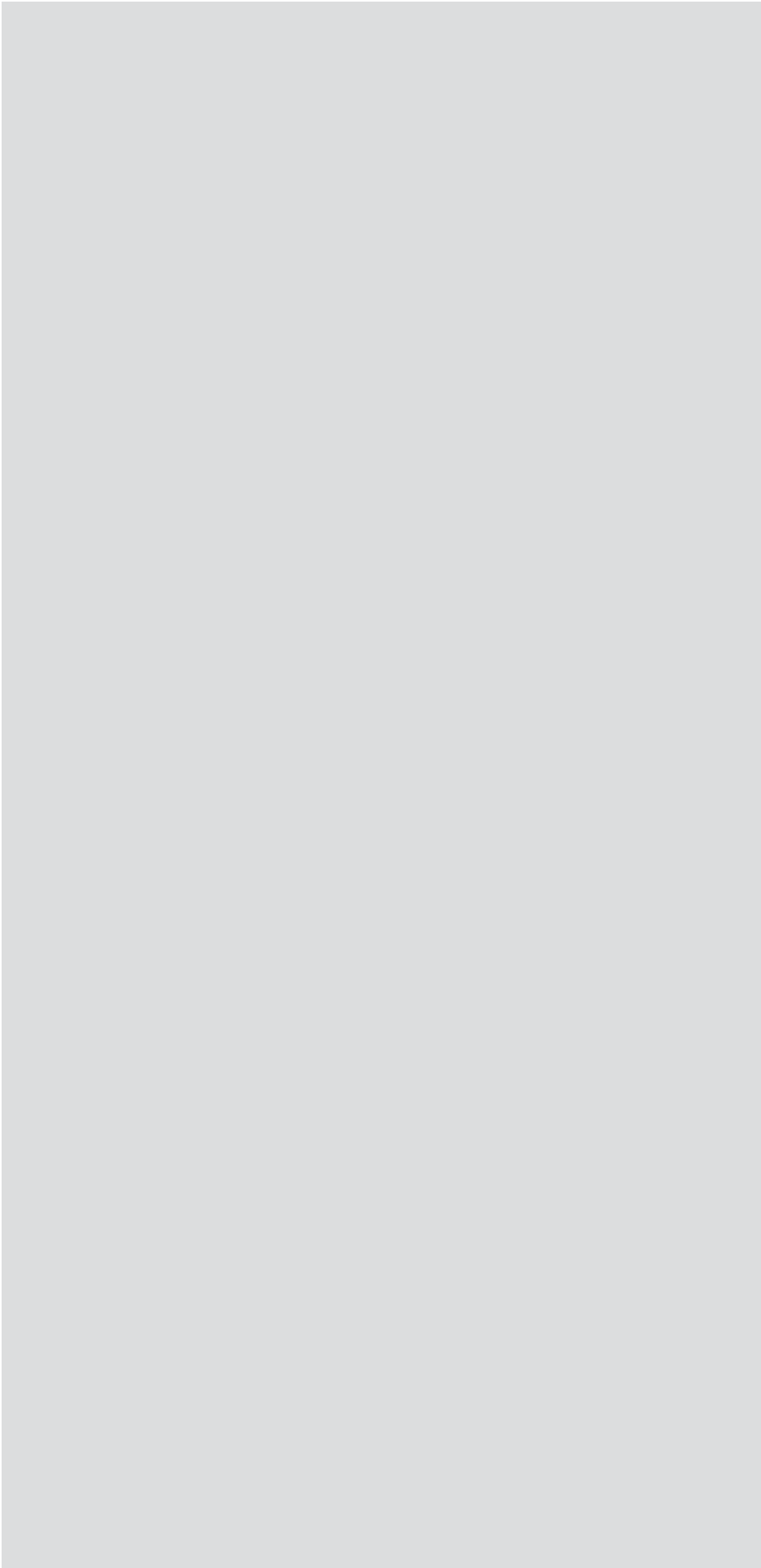
Obama called on Congress to finish the job with a balanced mix of spending cuts and more tax reform. Though he favors a balanced approach that will solve the problem, the president said, he is realistic.

"I know that a full budget may not be finished before March 1," he said. "And unfortunately, that's the date when a series of harmful automatic cuts to job-creating investments in defense spending ... are scheduled to take effect."

If Congress cannot act immediately on a bigger package, Obama said, "then I believe that they should at least pass a smaller package of spending cuts and tax reforms that would delay the economically damaging effects of the sequester for a few more months until Congress finds a way to replace these cuts with a smarter solution."

There's no reason "that the jobs of thousands of Americans who work in national security or education or clean energy -- not to mention the growth of the entire economy -- should be put in jeopardy just because folks in Washington couldn't come together," he added.

"Our economy right now is headed in the right direction, and it will stay that way, as long as there aren't any more self-inflicted wounds coming out of Washington."





Snowboard on the EDGE!

(From left) Anthony Sulinski, Kevin Shao, Tyler Adams, Kelly Shao, and Katie Snodgrass take a snowboarding class during an EDGE! trip to Liberty Mountain Resort Jan. 12. The EDGE! program is open to all eligible Child, Youth and School Services youth ages 6-18. For more information, visit http://www.apgm-wr.com/family/youth_edge.html or call 410-278-1399.

Photo by Conor Joyce

Holy Season Worship Schedule

17 Feb ~ 31 Mar 2013

APG North Chapel (Aberdeen)

CATHOLIC

- Tues 12 Feb, 5 p.m., ShroveTues Supper
- Wed 13 Feb, 11:45 a.m./5:30 p.m., Ash Wednesday Mass
- Fri 15 Feb, 6 p.m., Stations/Soup & Bread
- Sun 17 Feb, 8:45 a.m., 1st Sun of Lent
- Sun 24 Feb, 8:45 a.m., 2nd Sun of Lent
- Fri 1 Mar, 6 p.m., Stations/Soup & Bread
- Sun 3 Mar, 8:45 a.m., 3rd Sun of Lent
- Sun 10 Mar, 8:45 a.m., 4th Sun of Lent
- Mon 11 Mar, 5:30 p.m., Lenten Penance Service
- Fri 15 Mar, 6 p.m., Stations/Soup & Bread
- Sun 17 Mar, 8:45 a.m., 5th Sun of Lent
- Mon 25 Mar, 11:45 a.m., Annunciation
- Sun 24 Mar, 8:30 a.m., Palm Sunday
- Wed 27 Mar, 5:30 p.m., Healing Mass/Anointing
- Fri 29 Mar, 3 p.m., Veneration of Cross
- Sat 30 Mar, 8 p.m., Easter Vigil Mass
- Sun 31 Mar, 8:45 a.m., Easter Sunday

PROTESTANT

- Sun 17 Feb, 10:15 a.m., 1st Sun of Lent
- Sun 24 Feb, 10:15 a.m., 2nd Sun of Lent
- Sun 3 Mar, 10:15 a.m., 3rd Sun of Lent
- Sun 10 Mar, 10:15 a.m., 4th Sun of Lent

- Sun 17 Mar, 10:15 a.m., 5th Sun of Lent
- Sun 24 Mar, 10:15 a.m., Palm Sunday
- Sun 31 Mar, 10:15 a.m., Easter Sunday

GOSPEL

- Sun 17 Feb, noon, 1st Sun of Lent
- Sun 24 Mar, noon, 2nd Sun of Lent
- Sun 3 Mar, noon, 3rd Sun of Lent
- Sun 10 Mar, noon, 4th Sun of Lent
- Sun 17 Mar, noon, 5th Sun of Lent
- Sun 24 Mar, 10:15 a.m., Palm Sunday
- Sun 31 Mar, noon, Easter Sunday

APG South Chapel (Edgewood)

CATHOLIC

- Wed 13 Feb, noon, Ash Wednesday Mass
- Sun 17 Feb, 10:45 a.m., 1st Sun of Lent
- Fri 22 Feb, 6 p.m., Stations/Soup & Bread
- Sun 24 Feb, 10:45 a.m., 2nd Sun of Lent
- Sun 3 Mar, 10:45 a.m., 3rd Sun of Lent
- Fri 8 Mar, 6 p.m., Stations/Soup & Bread
- Sun 10 Mar, 10:45 a.m., 4th Sun of Lent
- Sun 17 Mar, 10:45 a.m., 5th Sun of Lent
- Fri 22 Mar, 6 p.m., Stations/Soup & Bread
- Sun 24 Mar, 10:45 a.m., Palm Sunday
- Thur 28 Mar, 7 p.m., Holy Thursday

- Fri 29 Mar, 3 p.m., Good Friday
- Sun 31 Mar, 10:45 a.m., Easter Sunday

PROTESTANT

- Sun 17 Feb, 9:15 a.m., 1st Sun of Lent
- Sun 24 Feb, 9:15 a.m., 2nd Sun of Lent
- Sun 3 Mar, 9:15 a.m., 3rd Sun of Lent
- Sun 10 Mar, 9:15 a.m., 4th Sun of Lent
- Sun 17 Mar, 9:15 a.m., 5th Sun of Lent
- Sun 24 Mar, 9:15 a.m., Palm Sunday
- Sun 31 Mar, 9:15 a.m., Easter Sunday

LENTEN LUNCH & BIBLE STUDY

Every Wed 20 Feb – 27 Mar, noon, AA Chapel Fellowship Hall

LENTEN RENEWAL PROGRAM

10-13 Mar

Conducted by: Rev. John Campoli

“THE DRAMA OF EASTER”

31 Mar 2013, 0630

Location: Behind Top of the Bay

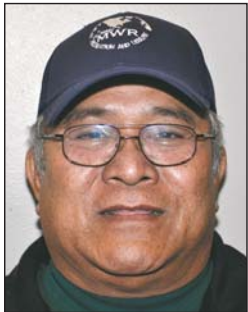
Join us afterwards for a Continental breakfast at Top of the Bay!

JEWISH HOLY DAYS

PURIM: 24 Feb

PASSOVER: 25 Mar to 2 Apr (Community Seder 26 Mar)

POC: Col. Jonas Vogelhut, 443-619-2304



Ed Dela Cruz

Business manager MWR's Auto Craft Center

Ed Dela Cruz is the business manager for MWR's Auto Craft Center in Bldg. 2379. Dela Cruz supervises two employees in managing the center. He said his job is to make sure everyone who uses the facility operates in a safe manner.

"We will assist but we won't do it for them," he said, adding that the most common customer projects are brake jobs, tire and oil changes, muffler and exhaust work.

"We have all the tools they need to get the job done," he said.

Currently, the center hours of operation are Thursday and Friday, 1 to 9 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; closed Monday through Wednesday and on holidays.

Dela Cruz said the Auto Craft Center plans to open for business on the President's Day holiday, Monday, Feb. 18 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. "We're doing this to see how much business we can generate on a Monday and possibly open the center five days a week," he said.

"I enjoy doing this because I help a lot of people," he added. "I love the feeling of accomplishment and my coworkers feel the same way. Every day is different and every day we learn something new."

Dela Cruz can be reached at 410-278-5178 or edwin.n.delacruz2.civ@mail.mil. For more information on the center, visit www.apgmwr.com.

Two retire during January ceremony

By **RACHEL PONDER**
APG News

Two civilians formally retired before family members, coworkers and friends during a retirement ceremony at APG's Ball Conference Center Jan. 31.

The honorees, Elaine Y. Su and Peter Kaunzinger, had a combined service of 48 years.

Commander of the 1st Area Medical Laboratory Col. Anthony C. Bostick presided over the ceremony and presented awards, assisted by Master Sgt. Tracy Wayne, 1st AML. The Army Field Band Brass Quintet from Fort Meade, Md., provided musical support.

Elaine Y. Su

CECOM

Su was awarded the Department of the Army Commander's Award for Civilian Service, certificate of appreciation and certificate of retirement, signed by U.S. Communications-Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Command and APG Commander Maj. Gen. Robert S. Ferrell. Her husband Wei Su, received the certificate of appreciation. Su officially retired Jan. 3 with 15 years of civilian service.



Su

Su was born in Canton, China, in 1954 and grew up in Hong Kong. She came to the United States when she was 23, attended Fisher Junior College in Massachusetts and graduated in 1984 with a business degree. While in Massachusetts, she worked for the Department of Education for two years and went to New York City as a production manager in fashion business for 14 years.

Su started her government career in 1998 as an Army Materiel Command intern. She attended the officer basic course where she drove a M88 Tank Recovery Vehicle. She graduated from the AMC intern program with a grade point average of 90-plus and reported to CECOM at Fort Monmouth, N.J., in April 1999.

At CECOM, Su worked in Logistic Engineering Operations as a materiel release coordinator. In 2003, she was promoted to the Power Division, Computer and Communication Surveillance—Avionic Directorate working on environmental control units and generators. (The Power Division is now a separate Power and Environmental Directorate.)

In 2009, Su was promoted to the grade of GS-14 as the Branch Chief of Provisioning Logistic Management Generators Branch in the Power Environmental Directorate. Her career culminates as chief, Environmental Control Unit/Power Sources Integrated Logistics Support Branch, Logistics and Readiness Center, CECOM.

Some of Su's noteworthy accomplishments include the CECOM Achievement Medal for Civilian Service and receiving a four-star general note and coin from AMC in recognition of her achievements as the point of contact for materiel release and contribution to the Army Materiel Release Tracking System.

She was also the chairperson of the Asian-Pacific Islander American (APA)

Committee from 2004 to 2007. During her tenure, she successfully invited the Honorable Benjamin Wu, the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Technology Policy, to be the Speaker of the Asian Heritage Luncheon in 2005. The event was attended by the CECOM commander and high level managers and considered a great success.

Su said she greatly appreciated the opportunities CECOM has provided to her. In her retirement, she plans to serve the community by volunteering.

"I feel like I fulfilled the American dream," said Su of her career success.

Peter Kaunzinger

CERDEC

Kaunzinger was awarded the Department of the Army Achievement Medal for Civilian Service, certificate of appreciation and certificate of retirement signed by U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Command Director Jill H. Smith. His wife, Irina, received the DA certification of appreciation. Kaunzinger retired on Jan. 3 with over 33 years of research and development service to the Army.



Kaunzinger

Kaunzinger was born in Munich, Germany, in 1957, and attended St. Rose High School in Belmar, N.J.

He began his career in communications in May of 1979 at the U.S. Army Communication Research and Development Command (CORDACOM) then CECOM, Center for Communications Systems, (CENCOMS) then communications and Automatic Data Processing Directorate (COMM/ADP) where he set up the Army's fiber optics test facility to measure performance and environmental characters of fiber optic cables.

Kaunzinger developed and demonstrated the feasibility of automated Army's distributed battlefield coordination element functions in obtaining air support to the battlefield from the Air Force.

In 1988, Kaunzinger changed careers from communications to electronic warfare in support of aircraft survivability. He conducted testing and published a paper on Grab Jamming Technique for aircraft survivability in support of The Technical Cooperation Program (TTCP) International Panel.

Kaunzinger said he plans to devote more time to his family and to his hobbies, which include solving mathematical puzzles and listening to classic and alternative rock music.



Medal of Honor recipient talks of acts during battle, unfamiliar award

Story and Photo by **RACHEL PONDER**
APG News

Medal of Honor recipient retired Chief Warrant Officer 4 Hershel Woodrow “Woody” Williams visited APG to speak at a professional development session hosted by U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command at the post theater Jan. 29. Williams is one of 80 living Medal of Honor recipients.

Williams spoke of his experience under fire, exceptional Army training and having never heard of the Medal of Honor until it was presented to him by President Harry S. Truman on Oct. 5, 1945.

Coming from the small West Virginia community of Quiet Dell—population 200—just at the junction of Interstate 79 and WV Route 20, Williams knew nothing of the prestigious award that would one day be his. And he certainly knew nothing of war.

“In our community we didn’t know where Pearl Harbor was. We didn’t know anything about war,” he said. “I had the same teacher from grade 1 to grade 8; she taught me how precious our freedom was. People were saying that the Japanese were going to take away our freedom. I didn’t want to lose our freedom.”

On Feb. 23, 1945, while stationed in Iwo Jima, Williams, then a 21-year-old corporal, encountered a network of concrete bunkers and buried mines. Covered only by four riflemen, he fought desperately for four hours under tremendous enemy small-arms fire, repeatedly returning to his own lines to prepare demolition charges and obtain serviced flamethrowers.

“The four hours went by very fast, I have always wondered where the strength came from, that I did what I did without collapsing,” said the 89-year old World War II veteran. “Someone greater than me was giving me the strength for what I had to do.”

Williams said that he wears the nation’s highest award for military valor not for himself, but for the two Marines who died protecting him and the countless



“In our community we didn’t know where Pearl Harbor was. We didn’t know anything about war. I had the same teacher from grade 1 to grade 8; she taught me how precious our freedom was. People were saying that the Japanese were going to take away our freedom. I didn’t want to lose our freedom,” said Hershel Williams.

less Soldiers who never returned home from war.

“This medal to me stands for sacrifice, he said. “All of us have an obligation to America because of what she has done for us. We owe a debt to all of those who have protected her and kept our freedom alive all of these many years.”

“As far as I was concerned I was just doing the job for which I was trained,” he said. “I am just an ordinary man, who did an extraordinary thing.”

When asked what advice he would give Soldiers currently serving, Williams said he would tell them to be confident in their abilities, and take training seriously.

“I attribute my survival on Feb. 23 to my training,” he said. “If I really stopped and thought about what was going on, I would not have been able to do it. My training took over. I had in my mind that I was going to accomplish this,

not that I was going to die.

“Believe what you are doing, he said. “If fear takes over, you are done. Pay close attention to what you are taught, and remember all you can. Put into practice as much as you can in your life so you will be somewhat prepared to handle unusual circumstances.”

Williams became a public figure after being awarded America’s highest military honor, which led to an inadvertent healing.

“When I received the Medal of Honor, my life changed,” he said. “I was forced to talk about my experience, and talking about it helped me psychologically; it was like therapy for me.

Williams encouraged all Soldiers returning from war to talk about their experiences and seek treatment, if needed.

“Don’t keep it pinned up,” he said. “These days Soldiers have the advan-

tage of treatment facilities and rehab if they need help. We didn’t have that in my day.”

After retiring from the Marines, he worked for the Veteran’s Affairs for 33 years, in benefits counseling. Williams has also devoted a major portion of his life to traveling and sharing his experience with others.

“I am one of the most fortunate people in the world,” he remarked. “My life must have a purpose.”

The Jan. 29 program also included the national anthem, sung by Courtney White and the invocation by Chaplain (Col.) David Hills, both of ATEC. The director of ATEC’s U.S. Army Evaluation Center David Jimenez gave the welcome remarks, and APG Commander Maj. Gen. Robert S. Ferrell gave closing remarks. After the program, Williams met and took pictures with members of the audience.

Bowling center open to leagues, individuals

Story and photo by **PAT BEAUCHAMP**
APG Public Affairs

If you’re looking for a way to fulfill your New Year’s resolution, or just have Family fun, try bowling at the APG North (Aberdeen) bowling center.

According to the center’s business manager, Lora Owens, they are hoping to boost the number of league and individual bowlers.

“Anyone who wants to bowl and is willing to learn a little bit about league play is welcome to join us.”

Currently there are no leagues on Monday evenings, but there is room for one, said Owens. And the Tuesday lunchtime league has plenty of room for more bowlers.

LEAGUES

Your Time League is a league that fits your schedule. It appropriate for all ages and skill levels. Teams of three bowl three games a week, with or without teammates.

Games can be bowled any time of day, any day of the week, while lanes are available. League runs in 10-week sessions.

Lunchtime leagues are forming now and play Tuesdays, Wednesdays

and Thursdays between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. **Evening leagues** have openings on Monday and Friday evenings, and there are still openings on the **Saturday Youth league**.

Simply Special Sunday Bowling is designed for patrons with disabilities. It begins at 10:30 a.m. every Sunday. League runs for 10 weeks with two-week breaks between sessions.

The bowling center offers open bowling for people who bowlers who do not want to join a league, but simply bowl at their leisure.

Owens recommends calling ahead for open bowling, to make sure lanes are available and to make a reservation.

The center is open to eligible MWR patrons, and includes more than just bowling. Meeting areas are available for birthday parties, farewells, company organization days and team building exercises.

The snack bar offers hot and cold food items, including breakfast beginning at 7 a.m. Monday through Friday. Customers are encouraged to call ahead to avoid waiting in line for food.

To place orders, check lane availability, or for more information, call 410-278-4041.



Mike O'Keefe, FMWR recreation aide, tries for a strike at the bowling center.

Employee faces max 20 years for wire fraud

Continued from Page 1

of the Defense Criminal Investigative Service - Mid-Atlantic Field Office and Chief Chip Honan of the Aberdeen Proving Ground Police Department.

According to her plea agreement, from October 2007 through February 2011, Williams worked as an administrative aide at Freestate Challenge Academy, a Maryland National Guard youth training program located at Aberdeen Proving Ground.

Williams was authorized to use the

Academy’s corporate credit card to make purchases for the Academy, and was required to prepare a monthly expense report, which included the purchasing card billing statement, original receipts, copies of the approved requisition forms, and a log of activity on the purchasing card.

Once her supervisor approved the expense report, it was forwarded to the State of Maryland Military Department, which paid the account balance on the corporate purchasing card.

Williams admitted that, from Feb-

ruary 2008 through October 2010, she used the corporate credit card to buy gift cards and items over the internet for her personal use. For example, on May 18, 2010, Williams paid for two airline tickets for her and a friend to travel to Los Angeles, Calif., with six gift cards purchased with the corporate credit card.

To conceal her fraud, Williams prepared false logs of the card activity and fictitious receipts, purportedly for office supplies, snacks for program participants and other legitimate items pur-

chased from local stores.

Williams faces a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison for wire fraud. U.S. District Judge Richard D. Bennett scheduled sentencing for May 6 at 3 p.m. United States Attorney Rod J. Rosenstein praised the FBI, Defense Criminal Investigative Service and Aberdeen Proving Ground Police for their work in the investigation. also Rosenstein thanked Assistant U.S. Attorney Joyce K. McDonald, who is prosecuting the case.

Submit letters to the editor to adriane.foss@us.army.mil

ECBC, ARL scientists team up on octopus-inspired suction cups

Project to expand size, shape of items grasped by robots

ECBC news release

Natural disasters like earthquakes, hurricanes and tsunamis can unveil points of weakness in man-made infrastructure, and now robots are being called in to lend a helping hand.

Scientists at the U.S. Army Research Laboratory (ARL) on APG North (Aberdeen) and the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center (ECBC) on APG South (Edgewood) are developing suction cups that could one day be featured on robots designed to perform tasks in unstructured and contaminated environments.

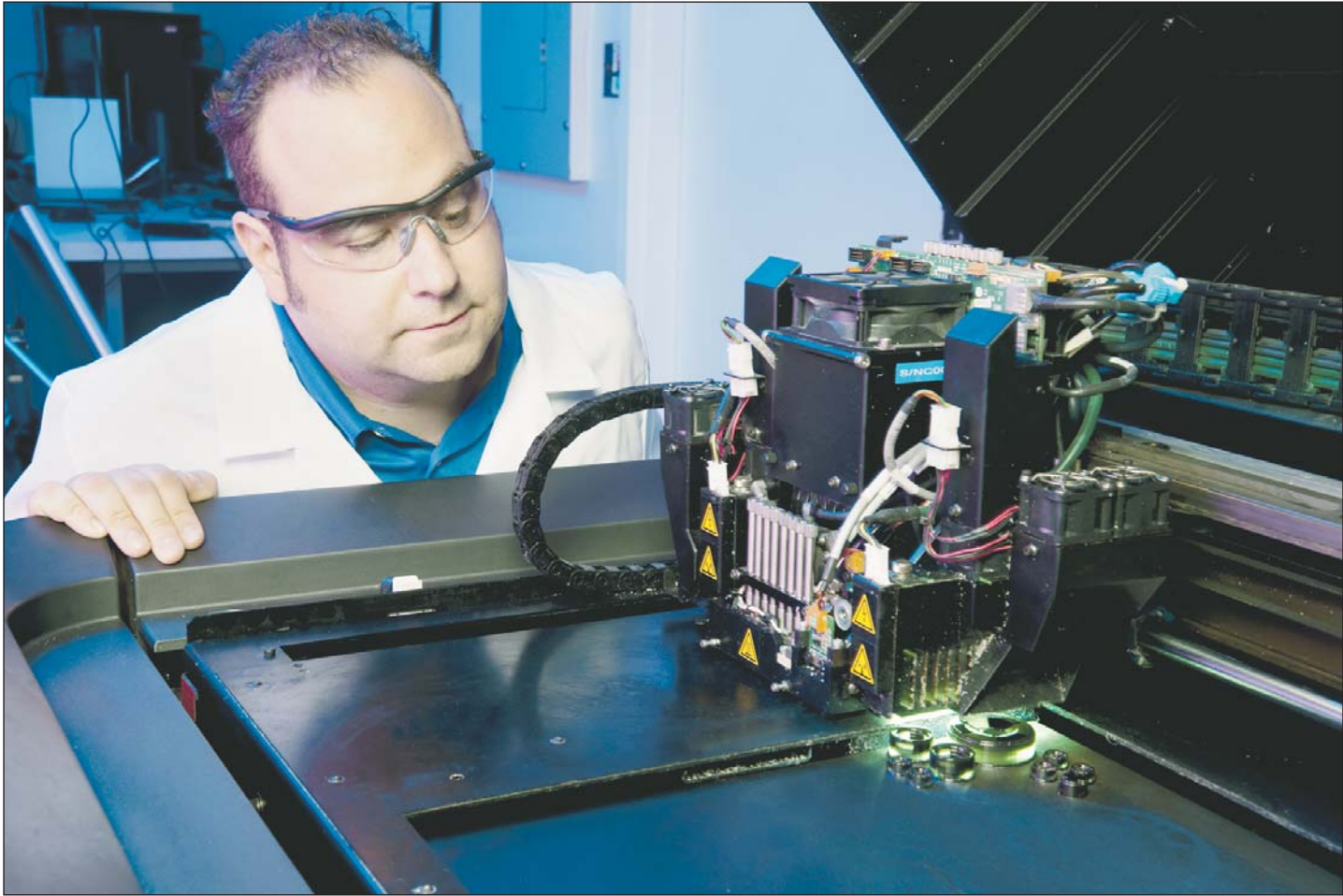
The self-sealing suction cup is a collaborative project between the two Army laboratories and the University of Maryland, where Chad Kessens, a robotic manipulation researcher for ARL, is pursuing his doctorate degree in Mechanical Engineering under the advisement of Professor Jaydev Desai.

As part of the Ph.D. program, Kessens decided to test the limits of robotic grasping by developing a new suction technology to expand the range of graspable object shapes and sizes. An expanded grasping capability could improve the way emergency response teams observe areas of devastation by increasing the effectiveness of robotic operations while reducing human risk at dangerous on-site locations.

“Manipulation of unknown objects is a very difficult task for a robot. In traditional applications, the robot would have a model for the object it wants to pick up, and would then know how to pick it up. The self-sealing suction cup design could enhance grasping technology, making grasping of unknown objects easier,” Kessens said.

On Dec. 7, 2012 a 7.3-magnitude earthquake was measured by the U.S. Geological Survey off the coast of Japan, shaking buildings in Tokyo and causing a small tsunami to revisit an area that was destroyed by the Fukushima-Daiichi disaster in 2011. Last year, a 9.0 earthquake killed nearly 20,000 people and led to widespread devastation when the nuclear power plant experienced fuel-rod meltdowns that caused unchecked radiation leakage and contaminated foodstuffs and water in what Reuters called “the world’s worst nuclear crisis in 25 years.”

“When something like Fukushima happens, it would be very useful if the robots that are sent in could perform some sort of manipulation activity like closing a valve, recovering an object or operating a tool in a contaminated area,” Kessens said. “Even opening a door or a hatch could allow the robot to better observe what’s going on inside the reactor while eliminating the risk of exposing people to radiation.”



Photos by Doug Lafon

ECBC engineering technician Brad Ruprecht used a multi-material 3D printer to produce numerous self-sealing suction cup prototypes for ARL's Chad Kessens, a robotic manipulation researcher. ECBC's advanced design and rapid prototyping capabilities provided workable samples right off printer.

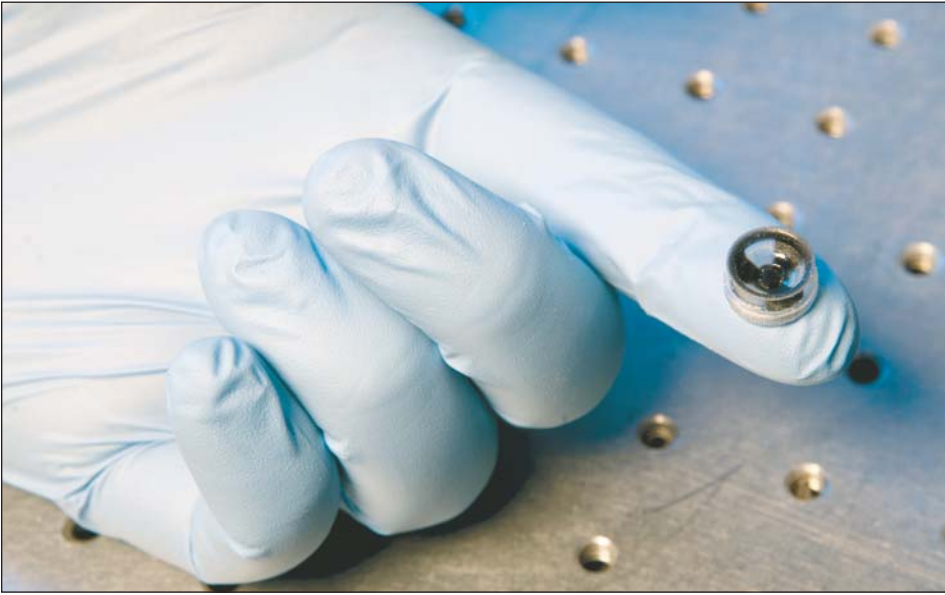
Inspired by the octopus, Kessens’ design features a self-sealing component that imitates the sea creature’s ability to individually actuate suction cups based on the object it wants to pick up—from large and small fish to rocks and even a jar of peanut butter. Though suction technology has been applied to the robotics field since the 1960s, it has been limited in its scope and practical only for objects with a specific size and shape. According to Kessens, a traditional suction grasper uses one vacuum pump as a central suction source, which limits the effectiveness of the technology for grasping if some cups on the grasper do not attach to a given object, creating leak

ed in its scope and practical only for objects with a specific size and shape. According to Kessens, a traditional suction grasper uses one vacuum pump as a central suction source, which limits the effectiveness of the technology for grasping if some cups on the grasper do not attach to a given object, creating leak

points where air enters at the point of engagement.

Instead, Kessens is modifying the technology so a robot could grasp a large range of items by maximizing the strength of the suction. The self-sealing suction cup features a plug that sits nominally in the suction inlet. When the source pump is turned on, the plug of any cup not in contact with an object gets sucked in, sealing itself. This increases the pressure differential and strengthens the suction capability of the cups that are engaged on an object. The design also uses passive reaction forces that cause the cup to activate and open when the lip contacts an object, breaking the seal to initiate suction.

The joint project between ARL and ECBC is currently in the middle of its lifecycle, however, and comprehensive testing of the prototype still needs to be



Kessens’ self-sealing suction cup design features a central plug that maximizes suction strength to improve a robot’s ability to grasp a wide variety of unknown objects.

done, said Kessens. While the ARL scientist provided the concept and design, it was ECBC that generated the prototypes through its expertise in rapid prototype manufacturing. According to Brad Ruprecht, engineering technician and senior model maker in the Advanced Design and Manufacturing Division of ECBC’s Engineering Directorate, the biggest challenge was determining how small the cups could be while still making them functional. Part of the process was ECBC’s design capability, including experienced engineering personnel and advanced equipment, to craft a prototype using a multi-material 3D printer.

“What I loved about the project is Chad came to ECBC first and foremost because we had the multi-material machine, and he leveraged that to get a working model right off of the 3D printer,” Ruprecht said. “It has levers and springs and everything else needed to be a working prototype, and it’s worked very well for him. He’s received a lot of good data from it and is definitely moving forward with his designs.”

Now on its fourth iteration of the design, the self-sealing suction cup rang-

es anywhere in size from the palm of a hand to the point of a fingertip. Four fingertip cups can pick up a bottle of wine. The next step is developing a substrate such as a hand or tentacle, where the cups would be located on a robot. Until then, there are plenty of prototypes to finalize the design and conduct testing.

The collaborative effort between ARL and ECBC demonstrates a desire to improve technology, share resources and utilize the expertise of personnel working in laboratories across the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command.

For more information about ECBC, visit <http://www.ecbc.army.mil/>. ECBC is the Army’s principal research and development center for chemical and biological defense technology, engineering and field operations. For more information about the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center, please visit our website at <http://www.ecbc.army.mil/> or call (410) 436-7118.

Visit APG News online at
www.apgnews.apg.army.mil

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

AAFES EXTENDS HOURS

The APG Express (shopette) will extend its hours until 9 p.m. on a 30-day trial basis.

If enough patrons frequent the Express during the extended hours, the extension may become permanent.

Customers will also notice extended hours for the Burger King dining room, which will now stay open as long as the drive through is open.

For more information, call 410-272-6828.

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 9 WHITE-TAILED DEER SURVEY

Harford County seems to be experiencing explosive population growth and not just with humans. Come help determine if the deer population of Leight Park is a healthy size. Come get the scoop on poop and conduct pellet (deer scat) counts out on the trails to determine how many deer call the park home. This program will be held 9 to 11 a.m. for ages 16 to adult. The program is free but online registration is required at www.otterpointcreek.org.

For information or directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

ST. BARBARA BALL

The annual St Barbara's Day Ball is set at Aberdeen Proving Ground Saturday, Feb. 9 at Top of the Bay from 6-12 p.m. This ceremonial dinner and dance program recognizes achievements of the Army field artillery community. St Barbara is the patron saint of artillery. Once a longstanding tradition at Fort Monmouth, N.J., the event has now moved to APG.

APPRECIATE THE BIRDS

Celebrate National Bird Feeding Month by learning about some of the wintering birds near the Estuary Center and by making a bird feeder. This program will be held at 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. for ages 5 to 12. The cost is \$4 and online registration is required at www.otterpointcreek.org.

For information or directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

IF YOU FEED THEM, THEY WILL COME

While the kids learn to "Appreciate the Birds," parents are invited to join Phil Powers to learn what birds frequent backyards in Harford County and their feeder and food preferences. This program will be held at 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. for ages 13 to adult. The program is free but online registration is required at www.otterpointcreek.org.

For information or directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

WILDLIFE ILLUSTRATION

Ever wanted to try wildlife illustration like in nature guides? Participants will cover all the basics needed to get started on the way to being the next Roger Tory Peterson. This program will be held at 2 to 4 p.m. for ages 10 to adult. The cost is \$5 and online registration is required at www.otterpointcreek.org.

For information or directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

APG'S YOUTH SPRING SPORTS REGISTRATION IS FEB. 4-28 AND INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING:

Soccer Skill Development	
6-12 years by April 1	\$65
Basketball Start Smart	
3-5 years by March 18	\$20
Girls softball	
9-18 years by Jan 1	\$40
T-Ball	
4-5 years by April 30	\$35
Baseball	
6-12 years by April 30	\$40
Flag football	
6-15 years by April 1	\$40
Cheerleading	
6-15 years by April 1	\$40

SUNDAY FEB. 10 HANDMADE PAPER VALENTINE

Learn how to recycle paper and other fibers to create unique handmade paper for crafting a special val-

entine. This program will be held at 1 to 2:30 p.m. for all ages, under 12 with adult. The cost is \$5 and online registration is required at www.otterpointcreek.org.

For information or directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

BACKYARD CONSERVATION – BUILD YOUR OWN RAIN BARREL

Rain barrels are a cheap and easy way to conserve water and reduce runoff. This workshop will help build a rain barrel and learn about the many benefits they provide. Be sure to bring a vehicle large enough to transport the rain barrel home. This program will be held at 3 to 5 pm for adults. The cost is \$30 per barrel and online registration is required at www.otterpointcreek.org.

For information or directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

MONDAY FEB. 11 BLOOD DRIVE SET

APG will hold a Winter Blood Drive from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the recreation center. To schedule an appointment, visit www.militarydonor.com, and search for drive using sponsor code: APGMD

TUESDAY FEB. 12 BLUE CROSS REP

A Care First Blue Cross Blue Shield claim rep will visit APG from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. in Bldg. 314, Room 151E, to discuss claim problems and plan coverage. The representative will be available from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in Bldg E4516 (CDTF). No appointment is necessary.

For more information, contact Joan Campbell at 410-278-5668 or joan.campbell@us.army.mil.

HEALTHY HEART CHECK

Stop by the Aberdeen gym 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and find out if you're doing the right things to keep your heart healthy. Get a free blood pressure screening and consultation on how to keep your ticker in shape. For information, call 410-278-1771.

PROSTATE CANCER

Join Sankar J. Kausik, M.D., F.A.C.S. of Chesapeake Urology, as he speaks on prostate cancer at Myer Auditorium from noon to 1p.m. For information, call 443-861-7910 or email tiffany.l.grimes.civ@mail.mil.

HARFORD COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE

Experience the joy of starting your favorite vegetable plants from seed using an indoor lighting system in your own home. Gain the essential knowledge needed to properly harden off seedlings for transferring them into your garden. The class is 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Registration is required. Cost is \$5 per participant.

FEB. 12 & MARCH 12 SPONSORSHIP TRAINING

Training outlines sponsors' basic responsibilities to help Soldiers, civilian employees and their Family members successfully relocate in and out of their organization. The training will be held at Bldg. 2503, 2nd Floor, CYSS Classroom, from 11 a.m.-noon. For information, call 410-278-7572.

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 13

B-3 CAREER FAIR

In partnership with Army Community Service, B3 Solutions will host a career fair from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the APG North recreation center. Emphasis will be on the following job descriptions:

- Program Analyst (senior, mid and junior level)
- Administrative Assistant (senior, mid and junior level)
- Product Manager (senior, mid and junior level)
- Liaison Officer (senior and mid-level)
- Life Cycle Manager (senior and mid-level)
- Strategic Planner (senior and mid-level)
- Technical Writer (senior and mid-level)

Graphic Artist (senior and mid-level)

Equipment Specialist
Exhibit Coordinator

For more information, contact Marilyn Howard, ACS Employment Assistance, at 410-278-9669 or marilyn.howard.civ@mail.mil.

THURSDAY FEB. 14 LOVE YOUR HEART

Learn how to protect your heart on Valentine's Day. Join us at APG South (Edgewood), Bldg. E2800 from noon-1 p.m. Guest speaker Gale Sauer, RN, Army Test and Evaluation Center, will teach attendees how to maintain a healthy heart. For information, call 443-861-9260.

MEDIATION SKILLS

Join Kelsang Chogden, principal teacher at Kadampa Meditation Center-Maryland, as she speaks about meditation at Myer Auditorium from 12-1pm. For more information, contact Tiffany Grimes at 443-861-7910 or tiffany.l.grimes.civ@mail.mil.

FRIDAY & SATURDAY FEB. 15 & 16 AN INTRODUCTION TO WINTER BIRD PHYSIOLOGY AND ECOLOGY

This course will provide a brief introduction to the world of winter birds and how they cope with changes in habitat and food choices. It will begin Friday evening from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. with a discussion of avian physiology, systematics, and ecology as it relates to many common winter birds. On Saturday the course will continue from 9 to 11 a.m. and will involve a closer look at feeder birds while observing them from the feeders and mark and release them following an assessment of health. Participants will get a closer look at birds and obtain a greater appreciation of their unique adaptations including a background on how species develop and diversify. This program is for ages 12 to adult and the cost is \$20. Online registration is required at www.otterpointcreek.org.

For information or directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

SATURDAY FEB. 16 INVASINATORS

Become part of the volunteer team of invasive plant removers and native plant restorers. This winter focus on mapping, ground truthing, and monitoring invasive plants to formulate an invasives action plan. Dress for the weather and be prepared to be working at both Leight Park and the Bosely Conservancy. This program will be held 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. for ages 14 to adult. The program is free but online registration is required at www.otterpointcreek.org.

For information or directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

TUESDAY FEB. 19 FINANCIAL SEMINAR

Attend the Making the Most of What You Make financial seminar. Michelle Rackey, ChFEBC, executive director of GEBA, will be the speaker at Myer Auditorium from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For information, call 443-861-7910 or email tiffany.l.grimes.civ@mail.mil

MONDAY FEBRUARY 25 VETERAN JOB FAIR

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation will host a Hiring Our Heroes job fair at the Ruhl Armory, 1035 York Road in Towson, Md., from noon to 4 p.m.

Register at <https://hoh.greatjob.net/sc/viewEvent.action?id=847512>. For online help with resume writing, interview tips, translating military skills and experience into related civilian careers, visit the <http://www.military.com/hiringourheroes>.

For information, e-mail hiringourheroes@uschamber.com or call 202-463-5807 or 410-616-0559.

SATURDAY MARCH 2 WOMEN'S SKEET/TRAP

Introductory classes for women's skeet and trap will be offered at the APG skeet and Trap Range at APG-South (Edgewood) from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Cost is \$10 per person. Lessons include: Introduction to the shotgun, gun safety Demo and target shooting. Guns and ammo will be provided. Registration deadline is Feb 25. For information, call 410-278-4124/5789 or email APGR-USAG-MWR-Outdoorrecreation@conus.army.mil.

MONDAY MARCH 4 JOB STORE OPEN FOR VETS MARCH 4 AT PX

Visit the Hero2Hired Mobile Job Store at the APG PX parking lot Monday, March 4, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Hero2Hired (H2H) is a Yellow Ribbon-funded program that connects job seeking veterans and Family members with meaningful employment. H2H contains everything you need to find a job, including job listings, career exploration tools, education and training resources, live and virtual hiring fairs, a mobile app, an innovative Facebook application, and a variety of networking opportunities.

The H2H Mobile Job Store is an extension of the H2H program. It has four computer stations that connect to the H2H.jobs website as well as a multimedia system and a lounge area where the MJS staff will be available to answer questions and assist with signing up on the H2H.jobs site.

Check out facebook.com/H2H.Jobs or twitter.com/H2H.Jobs.

TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY MARCH 6-7 CALLING ALL CRAFTERS

Do you craft? Or do you know someone who does? Now is your chance to display your talent at the annual APG Spring-Tastic Bazaar. For more information or to reserve a table, contact the Leisure and Travel Office at the APG North recreation center.

THURSDAY MARCH 28 BRAIN INJURY AWARENESS

March is Brain Injury Awareness Month. The community is invited to a brain injury awareness event, presented by some of the most esteemed experts in the field of adult, child, and sports-related brain injuries. The event is set at the post theater from 1-4 p.m., and everyone is welcome. Snacks and beverages will be provided.

MONDAYS APG THEATER GROUP SEEKING MEMBERS

Need more drama in your life? More laughs? Want to improve your public speaking skills, or learn how to look 10 years younger instantly. Then the APG Theater workshop are for you. The classes are geared to assist anyone in bringing out their best while performing , interacting one-on-one, or speaking before a small group. Find out what your body language is saying, but what your words are revealing.

Classes run for approximately four weeks, and are held every other Monday at 5 p.m. in the APG North recreation center ballroom. A certificate of participation is presented at the end of the class.

The workshop is free, and dates and times are subject to change.

If interested, stop by the APG North or South recreation centers during regular business hours to fill out a registration form, email patricia.a.devine6.naf@mail.mil, or call 410-278-9451.

OBEY SPEED LIMITS

APG motorists are urged to obey the speed limit. Drivers should be especially cautious during physical fitness training hours as Soldiers exercise outdoors and conduct PT tests.



MORE ONLINE
More events can be seen at www.apgnews.apg.army.mil/calendar.

Critical missions continue despite cuts

Continued from Page 1

lifeguards, Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention program staff (permanent and term), Alcohol and Substance Abuse Program counselors, and -- regardless of funding source -- Child, Youth and School Services staff in accordance with IMCOM Command and Headquarters, Department of the Army hiring guidelines.

Ferriter emphasized, "Because of the important nature of installation management business, we will review hiring requests at each garrison and can make additional approvals to ensure critical missions continue. We have spoken with every garrison commander or deputy and command sergeant major throughout IMCOM this week to ensure they understand the importance of our mission. The Army leadership remains committed to providing the best possible support to Soldiers, Families, Civilians and our Soldiers for Life."



Care providers practice leading their charges to safety during a U.S. Army Garrison Camp Humphreys Child Development Center evacuation drill, Oct. 29. While IMCOM is committed to responsibly reducing spending, garrisons are approved to hire child care workers and fill a number of mission critical openings. Photo by Steven Hoover

APG Electrobots win STEM contest

Continued from Page 1

"I witnessed our future scientists and engineers beating challenges that three months ago we thought would be beyond their reach," said Virginia To, the Electrobots head coach and Nicholas Kendall's mother.

FLL is a robotics program for 9- to 14-year-olds designed to increase students' involvement in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, known as STEM. Students are challenged to design a solution for a real-world problem.

The competition's theme, Senior Solutions, challenged FLL teams to improve senior citizens' quality of life.

The Electrobots interviewed senior citizens of the Lions Club and learned that forgetting to take medications is common, To said. They chose to help seniors alleviate their worries about when and how much of their medications to take.

To said the team developed the IntelliPatch 2.0, a modified dermal patch linked to a microchip to monitor and dispense medications when needed. They visited a pharmacy and doctor's office to learn about the problem and present their ideas.

The Electrobots designed and programmed an autonomous robot to perform tasks related to senior-citizen living, such as gardening, wood-working and picking up a prescription bottle. They were scored on the number of tasks completed within two-and-a-half minutes.

ARL materials engineer Dr. Sandy Young, who participates in APG's STEM education outreach initiatives, said her organization supports as many teams as there are scientists and engineers available to coach and mentor.

"FLL, like many after-school STEM programs, is an important way for students to learn creativity and critical thinking with STEM subjects in a non-formulary way," Young said. "We're proud that so many of the students become successful in science and math in school, their after-school FLL teams are successful at local qualifiers and state tournaments and more of them are choosing to pursue STEM careers in high school and beyond."

The Churchville Elementary School Parent-Teacher Association contacted ARL for support after learning the Army



(Front row from left) George Houzouris, Tyler Kash, Dawson Reed, Nicholas Kendall, Tommy Sukiennik, Sam Boin. Back row: Aaron Boin.

Photos by Katherine Sukienni

organization had supported other local teams. Five of the team's students attend Churchville Elementary.

ARL purchased the special FLL Mindstorms Robot kits, LEGO NXT software, a field table kit and spare parts for the team with National Defense Education Program funding, Young said.

Young also helped to connect the team's coaches with FLL officials and other local coaches for advice on registration and competition.

In addition to ARL's assistance, team parents work at five APG tenant organizations -- ARL; U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command; Communications-Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Center; Program Executive Office for Command, Control, Communications Tactical; and Program Executive Office for Intelligence, Electronic Warfare and Sensors. The parents served as robotics mentors, logistics support and a core values mentor.

The Electrobots are now invited to



Tommy Sukiennik (left) and Sam Boin change the robot's attachments during a practice run at a FIRST LEGO League competition Jan. 26.

participate in May at the North American Open Championship at LEGOLAND in Carlsbad, Calif., and will share lessons with Harford County teams.

Community health promotion councils helping commanders get the word out

By **LYN KUKRAL**
U.S. Army Public Health Command

Army installations offer numerous programs designed to help Soldiers.

To name just a few, there are programs to manage finances, get legal advice, readjust after deployment, or reduce (whether it's weight, alcohol consumption or tobacco use that needs reducing).

Installation commanders increasingly recognize that Soldiers and Families often need help to get help. To make help more accessible, commanders are using their Community Health Promotion Councils, or CHPCs, to ensure that installation services are "integrated and synchronized," in the words of Kym Ocasio, program manager for U.S. Army Public Health Command's health promotion officer initiative.

USAPHC is designated by regulation as the Army's subject-matter expert for health promotion. To fulfill that responsibility at installations, USAPHC's health promotion officers facilitate the work of CHPCs. As well, health promotion officers link CHPC members and services to deployable units through Brigade Health Promotion Teams, BHPTs.

Ocasio and the health promotion officers in her program fulfill these dual functions by pulling together mission, medical and garrison health and wellness assets to holistically manage issues like work-related difficulties, marital and family problems, substance abuse and suicide risk.

"'Holistically' means that all the installation's health and wellness assets work together to make health promotion, risk reduction and suicide prevention services easily available and mutually supportive," she explained.

The "integration" of health and wellness services reduces stovepipes and duplication of effort among installation service providers. In other words, each CHPC member knows what the other members are doing to address an issue through information-sharing and referral.

"Through the vehicle of the CHPC, service providers pull together to create a healthy environment for the individual or the unit," Ocasio said. "They make sure smooth handoffs occur among members, and that everyone involved knows the goal and is working toward it."

Wendy Lakso, health promotion officer at Fort Hood, Texas, agrees that CHPC members working collaboratively at her installation have fostered communication and effectiveness among commanders and service providers.

"Through the council, leaders at all levels to include service providers have been able to speak candidly about processes, policies and practices that may be beneficial or might need adjustment," she said. "The Fort Hood council has been able to recommend policy changes and streamline processes to be more effective while creating a stronger link between service providers and commanders."

USAPHC health promotion officers like Lakso also ensure that health and wellness are addressed in installation management plans and have specified goals and objectives. This is what Ocasio calls "synchronization."

"Synchronization is having a strategic plan for the Community Health Promotion Council that aligns with the installation plan and is linked to the commander's priorities," she explained.

Healthy Living

Visit www.apg.army.mil/. Click on Health Promotion

Healthy Living is a recurring feature in the APG News. It addresses health topics that matter most to our readers. To view more health topics and the Community Health Promotion Council calendar of events, visit the APG homepage <http://www.apg.army.mil/> and click on the Health Promotion icon at the bottom right, or scan the QR code (at right) with your smart phone or enabled device. To suggest health-related topics for the Healthy Living series, email adriane.c.foss.civ@mail.mil or call 410-278-7274.



Currently, there are 10 USAPHC-hired and -trained health promotion officers at Forces Command installations in the continental U.S. as well as seven in Germany.

In addition to their CHPC role, these health promotion officers also serve as liaisons for health promotion and risk reduction to Brigade Health Promotion Teams. These teams provide continuity in health promotion and risk reduction when the brigade deploys from its home installation.

"The health promotion officer liaison role helps align brigade needs with garrison and medical service providers and convey the interests of the brigade Soldiers and Families to the council," Ocasio explained. "The HPO supports the Brigade Health Promotion Team, which is designed to provide early detection of risk through systematic surveillance, and implement timely and targeted responses to brigade needs."

At Fort Hood, commanders like Col.

David Hill, 36th Engineer Brigade, appreciate the two-way communication role that health promotion officers fill.

"Our corps health promotion officer ... has advised us on ways to integrate installation and Army-level resources into our health promotion efforts at the brigade and battalion," Hill said. "Wendy is in touch with the unique challenges of my brigade, and I suspect that is true of brigades across Fort Hood. Because of her knowledge and perspective, I feel confident that in her role as advisor to the III Corps commander and as a liaison outside the corps, she is able to articulate our specific challenges to policy-makers and advocate for resources that best fit our needs."

Lakso credits Fort Hood commanders with a sustained commitment to collaboration that has allowed their units to anticipate and address issues before they become major.

"Creating the structure for health promotion at the corps level has made an

impact in bringing prevention activities to the forefront ... for leaders across our installation," Lakso said. "[These] activities with the CHPC, brigades and agency leaders ... have initiated a different way of doing business. We've moved from taking care of an individual or population after incidents to a proactive approach to holistic health and wellness. We're identifying potential risky behavior trends and looking at ways to implement programs to address those behaviors before they escalate."

In addition to the roles of informing, advocating and facilitating collaboration, HPOs like Lakso focus command attention on Soldier health and resilience across commands.

"The most important benefit of Fort Hood's HPO from my perspective is how well she helps me to see and understand the health and discipline of my brigade through the visualization tools she develops that indicate wellness trends relative to other units at the installation," according to Col. Mark Simerly, commander, 4th Sustainment Brigade, 13th Expeditionary Support Command.

As well, Simerly said, health promotion officers pull in the many resources available on an installation to provide a more complete picture of individual commands.

"By bringing together the diverse service providers into a single forum, the HPO creates a robust network of feedback and sensors that enables commanders to make informed assessments about units and individuals, and better decisions regarding command climate," he said.

"The bottom line is, we receive a great return on investment from the HPO concept here at Fort Hood."



Photo by Sgt. Steven Schneider

Col. Charles Kibben, 13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) rear detachment commander, leads the discussion during the 13th ESC's Health Promotion Forum, Jan. 20. Unit-level meetings contribute to the overall Community Health Promotion Council process by making timely assessments and creating or implementing programs that foster resiliency and empower Soldiers and Families.

Get smart about antibiotics, your health

By **LISA YOUNG**
U.S. Army Public Health Command

Child: I don't feel so good. Achoo! My nose is so stuffy and my throat hurts.

Parent 1: You know how frustrating it is trying to help your kids when they're sick. A visit to the doctor's office can be a challenge. So, I want to get my child on some antibiotics.

Nurse: As a parent, you want to help make your child feel better as fast as possible. It's tempting to think that antibiotics are the answer when your child is sick. However, a lot of illnesses can be caused by viruses, and antibiotics don't work on viruses.

Parent 2: I'm a doctor and the mother of two kids so I've seen my share of waiting rooms. He's right; if antibiotics are used too often for things they can't treat, like colds, flu or other viral infections, they can stop working effectively against bacteria when you really need them.

Nurse: Antibiotics are not always the answer. Let's see what else we can do.

Antibiotic resistance is a worldwide public health problem. Resistance occurs when bacteria can no longer be killed by a previously effective antibiotic and the bacteria continue to grow.

According to the Alliance for the Prudent Use of Antibiotics, if resistance to treatment continues to spread, our globally connected world may find itself back in the dark ages of medicine—before today's miracle drugs existed.

This misuse and overuse of antibiotics is believed to be the cause of antibiotic resistance among bacteria.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimated that more than 50 percent of antibiotics are unnecessarily prescribed for upper respiratory infections like cough and cold illness, most of which are caused by viruses.

This is one of the most common causes of improper use and misuse of antibiotic prescriptions.

In addition, many people don't com-

plete the full dosage of the antibiotic because they feel better or want to save some for the next time they are ill.

This practice leaves some bacteria alive and contributes to the bacteria's future resistance to antibiotic treatment. Limited access to medical care and effective treatments may also lead to self-medication misuse such as sharing or using leftover antibiotics.

The American College of Physicians states that both physicians and patients have a role to play in decreasing the misuse of antibiotics.

Physicians should only prescribe antibiotics when tests indicate that a bacterial infection is present. As a patient you can prevent antibiotic resistance by doing the following:

- Not requesting antibiotics from your doctor or taking antibiotics for a viral infection like a cold or the flu.
- Not sharing prescriptions or using a prescription that was not written for you.
- Taking all prescribed doses of the

antibiotic.

- Taking the antibiotics exactly as the doctor directs. Don't skip any doses.
- Returning for care if symptoms persist.

Be smart when using antibiotics and keep in mind—antibiotics kill bacteria, not viruses. Antibiotics will not keep other people from catching the infection. Taking antibiotics for a viral infection not only wastes time and money but contributes to increased antibiotic resistance. For the health of future generations, do your part to improve appropriate antibiotic use.

To highlight the importance of using antibiotics wisely, the CDC has established November 12-18, 2012 as "Get Smart About Antibiotics Week."

For more information on the appropriate use of antibiotics and antibiotic resistance, visit:

U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention,
<http://www.cdc.gov/getsmart/health-care/index.html>